

other instances since, seems to have been regarded as a qualified person to govern India- only by reason of his colossal ignorance of Indian life.

Wellesley, it is said, adopted the tone of a "hectoring schoolmaster"⁵⁵ and excluded Indians from Government House functions at Calcutta. The English began to be affected by the caste system and Macaulay appropriately called the new class of conquerors the "new breed of Brahmins."

Lord William Bentinck was a different proposition. He reduced salaries and was incessantly abused for his attempts at economy, despite the fact that he still left each Indian on an average about £2,200 a year! Bentinck was sympathetic to the freedom of the Press and was anxious to open up avenues of employment to Indians from which Cornwallis's policy had excluded them. Metcalfe remarked of Bentinck's administration: "Were he asked whether the increased happiness of our subjects was proportionate to the heavier expenses of our establishment, he should be obliged to answer according to his belief in the negative; for we were foreign conquerors, against whom the antipathy of the native subjects naturally prevailed. We held the country solely by force and by force alone could we maintain it." "It was an honest grief to him (Bentinck) to think, that he was regarded as the greatest jailer-general in the world" (Torrens). Bentinck is famous for his humanitarian measures, but still more for his educational policy, to which we have already referred (Chapter Three).

The event which had heralded the new bureaucracy was, of course, the Mutiny. English historians generally regard it as a military revolt, but to Indians it was the first war of independence. Whether it was organised or a series of local outbreaks is a moot point, but it produced upon the minds of Englishmen a deep impression. It became to the ordinary